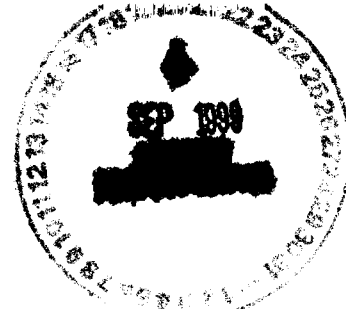


Department of Energy

ROCKY FLATS FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 928
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SEP 15 1999



99-DOE-03699

Mr. Steve Gunderson
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Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, OE-B2
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530

Mr. Tim Rehder
Rocky Flats Project Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, Colorado 80202-2466

Dear Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to provide notification of water-quality monitoring results at the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement (RFCA) Point of Evaluation (POE) surface-water monitoring station location SW093 in Walnut Creek above Pond A-1.

A single elevated 30-day average value for plutonium has been observed at SW093 during July 1999. That observation is presented in Table 1.

TABLE 1 30-Day Average Calculated Value for RFCA POE SW093 Monitoring Location

Analyte	Initial Date of 30-day Average >0.15pCi/L	Initial Reportable 30-day Avg Value (pCi/L)
Plutonium	7/25/99 [*]	0.155

* No 30-day values have been calculated for dates after July 25, 1999. Calculated values after July 25, 1999, will be determined upon receipt of analytical results from the laboratories for subsequent samples collected at SW093.

This notification fulfills the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site's (Site) commitment to inform the Environmental Protection Agency and the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment within a 15-day reporting period, which ends September 17, 1999.

Monitoring Results Downstream from SW093

Water flowing from SW093 during this period was detained in Pond A-3 and batch released into Pond A-4 on August 2-9, 1999, and subsequently detained for pre-discharge sampling and analysis before being directly discharged into Walnut Creek. A pre-discharge sample of Pond A-4 collected on August 10, 1999, (in preparation for the August 27 through September 7 direct discharge) gave analytical results of 0.009 pCi/L for plutonium.

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Results for three composite samples collected at RFCA Point of Compliance (POC) GS11 (Pond A-4 Outlet) during this discharge have not been returned from the laboratories. Further downstream results for three composite samples collected at RFCA POC GS03 during this same Pond A-4 discharge have also not been returned from the laboratories.

Monitoring Results Upstream from SW093

Analytical results received to date from the July through August period for upstream locations are summarized in Table 2. Water sampled at SW093 originates from the northern portion of the Site's Protective Area and North Walnut Creek where several RFCA Performance and Source Location monitoring stations sample the upstream flows.

TABLE 2 *Upstream from SW093: Individual Sample Results*

Monitoring Station	Monitoring Station Location	Analyte	Sample Period	Value (pCi/L)
GS32	Culvert north of Solar Ponds draining B779 Area	Plutonium	7/24/99	11.5
GS32	Culvert north of Solar Ponds draining B779 Area	Plutonium	7/31/99	Results Pending
GS32	Culvert north of Solar Ponds draining B779 Area	Plutonium	8/28/99	Results Pending
SW118	North Walnut Creek 560' above Portal 3	Plutonium	8/1 – 8/13/99	-0.001
SW118	North Walnut Creek 560' above Portal 3	Plutonium	8/13 –	Sampling in Progress

Water-Quality Results Analysis

The RFCA requires the Site to respond to these reportable results with a source evaluation plan within 30 days, which ends on October 4, 1999. The Site's source evaluation plan is to:

- (1) continue monitoring;
- (2) review the Site's operations, environmental restoration, and demolition and decommissioning activities, especially in the Building 779 area, to assess whether they may have impacted the Site's water quality during the period when the 30-day plutonium averages appear to be above 0.15 pCi/liter;
- (3) review sampling protocols;
- (4) intensify analysis of historical data in the drainage basin; and
- (5) continue the Actinide Migration Evaluations.

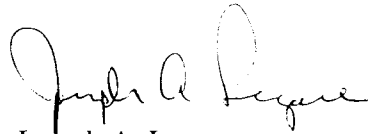
Mr. Steve Gunderson
Mr. Tim Rehder
DOE-99-03466

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The Site will report the results of this study by November 1, 1999. If you have any questions regarding this transmittal, please contact me at (303) 966-5918.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Legare
Assistant Manager
for Environment and Infrastructure

cc:

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